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Title: Need to set up a Regional Spices Board in Telangana region particularly in Karim Nagar in Andhra Pradesh.

SHRI PONNAM PRABHAKAR (KARIMNAGAR): I would like to draw the kind attention of the august House regarding the need to set up a Regional Spices Board in Andhra Pradesh.

India is one of the largest producers of spices in the world and Andhra Pradesh is the largest spice producing state in India. Andhra Pradesh produces varieties of spices but Chilli and Turmeric are the main spices grown. It is the largest producer of Turmeric and Chilli in India. This State is almost contributing around 50% of the country's production. Coriander, Tarmarind and Ginger are the other spices grown in Andhra Pradesh. Nizamabad, Warangal, Karimnagar, Adilabad, Medak, Rangareddy are the turmeric growing areas in the State. Nizamabad, Warangal and Cuddapah are the major trading centers for turmeric while Guntur and Warangal are the main trading centers for Chilli in Andhra Pradesh. The State has major share in exports of Indian spices.

I, therefore, request the Hon'ble Minister of Commerce & Industry to kindly set up a Regional Spices Board in the backward districts like Telangana particularly in Karim Nagar in Andhra Pradesh to boost the production of spices and to help the farmers and the marketing department within the current Five Year Plan.